



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Norfolk District

Media Advisory

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Project Update: Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot

SUFFOLK, Va. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps) continues ordnance and environmental investigations at the Former Nansemond Ordnance Depot (FNOD) site in Suffolk, under the Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) Program.

Munitions Response Efforts – The Corps has been focusing its munitions investigation efforts at FNOD in the GE Main Burning Ground area over the last few months. The Corps contractor, Zapata Engineering, began using a mechanical sifter at the site on Sept. 6. The mechanical sifter has allowed the team to sift through vast amounts of debris at twice the speed of the previous manual sifting rate.

“We’re making exceptional progress in the GE Main Burning Ground now that the sifter is being used,” says Corps Project Manager George Mears. The Corps will continue to focus on the GE Main Burning Ground through November. After the hurricane season is over, the Corps will initiate munitions investigation efforts at the Nansemond River Beachfront.

Environmental Response Efforts – The Corps has submitted a Proposed Plan for the Track K Dump to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) for review. The Corps proposes no further action for this site. The Track K Dump was included in EPA’s National Priority Listing of FNOD in 1999, and was designated as contaminant Source Area 6. The area has also been referred to as the “Tire Pile/Paint Can Area” because a portion of the area was covered by a large pile of tires and a smaller pile of paint cans, which the Corps removed in 2001. The Corps will discuss the Proposed Plan and the No Further Action alternative for the Track K Dump in detail at the next FNOD Restoration Advisory Board meeting on Oct. 6, and at a public meeting set for Dec. 1.

Next Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting -- The status of the Corps' site plans and activities will be discussed at the next FNOD Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting on Thursday, Oct. 6, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Bon Secours Health Center at Harbour View, located at 5818 Harbour View Boulevard in Suffolk, in the second floor conference room. RAB meetings are open to the public. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend. Meeting topics will include:

- Track K Dump Area Proposed Plan
- Environmental Studies - Areas of Concern 10 and 11 work plans and sampling maps
- Area of Concern 22 Update
- Hyperspectral Analysis Update
- Munitions Response and Land Use Control Updates
- Mechanical Sifter Update

Background on the Restoration Advisory Board -- The Restoration Advisory Board was established in 1997. It is a communications forum that enables the public to provide input on cleanup efforts to the Corps and state and federal environmental regulators. It is comprised of a diverse group of stakeholders including community members, local business representatives, local and state officials, a TCC representative and environmental staff from the Corps, VDEQ and the EPA. For more information please check out the project website at <http://www.nao.usace.army.mil/Projects/Nansemond/welcome.html> or contact Adriane James, FUDs Program Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at (757) 201-7701.

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